

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An intervertebral implant comprising:

a substantially cylindrical body portion having a first end and a second end; and

5 at least two tabs extending radially outward from the substantially cylindrical body portion, each of the at least two tabs being longitudinally displaced from the first and second ends.

2. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the at least two tabs include a first tab and a second tab, the first tab being radially spaced  
10 approximately 180° about the substantially cylindrical body portion from the second tab.

3. An intervertebral implant according to claim 2, wherein the first tab is longitudinally spaced along the substantially cylindrical body portion from the second tab.

15 4. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the substantially cylindrical body portion has a longitudinal axis and at least one throughbore defined in the substantially cylindrical body portion, the throughbore having a central axis which is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the substantially cylindrical body portion.

20 5. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein said substantially cylindrical body portion has a maximum diameter, and each tab of the at

least two tabs has a width less than or equal to the maximum diameter of the substantially cylindrical body portion.

6. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein said substantially cylindrical body portion defines an installation slot in one end thereof.

5 7. An intervertebral implant according to claim 4, wherein said substantially cylindrical body portion defines an installation slot in one end thereof and a bore extending between the slot and the throughbore.

8. An intervertebral implant according to claim 4, wherein the at least two tabs are radially spaced from the throughbore.

10 9. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the at least two tabs include a pair of radially opposed first tabs and a pair of radially opposed second tabs.

10. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein each tab of the at least two tabs has a wedge-shaped surface.

15 11. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein each tab of the at least two tabs has a camming surface.

12. An intervertebral implant as claimed in claim 11, wherein each camming surface is flat.

20 13. An intervertebral implant as claimed in claim 11, wherein each camming surface includes opposed inclined camming surfaces.

14. An intervertebral implant according to claim 11, wherein each tab of the at least two tabs has a profile that defines a progressive camming surface.

15. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein each tab of the at least two tabs includes a threaded bone engaging surface.

5           16. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the substantially cylindrical body portion defines a throughbore and each tab of the at least two tabs is an end of a plug positioned through the throughbore.

17. An intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the substantially cylindrical body portion is tapered.

10           18. The intervertebral implant according to claim 1, wherein the implant is formed from a biocompatible material.

19. The intervertebral implant according to claim 18, wherein the implant is formed of bone.

15           20. The intervertebral implant according to claim 19, wherein the bone is animal bone.

21. The intervertebral implant according to claim 19, wherein the bone is human.

22. The intervertebral implant according to claim 19, wherein the bone is surface demineralized.

20           23. A method of installing an intervertebral implant between adjacent vertebrae comprising the steps of:

providing an intervertebral implant having a substantially cylindrical body portion and at least two tabs extending radially from the body portion;

forming a stepped bore in a portion of two adjacent vertebrae, the stepped bore having an enlarged diameter area and a reduced diameter area;

5 aligning the at least two tabs with a space defined between the adjacent vertebrae;

inserting the implant into the space a sufficient distance such that the at least two tabs are positioned adjacent the enlarged diameter area of the bore; and

10 rotating the implant to position the tabs within the enlarged diameter area of the bore.

24. An intervertebral implant comprising:

a body portion having a first end and a second end; and

at least two tabs extending radially outward from the body portion, each of the at least two tabs being longitudinally displaced from the first and second ends.

15 25. The intervertebral implant according to claim 24, wherein the body portion has a substantially rectangular cross-section.

26. The intervertebral implant according to claim 24, wherein the body portion has a substantially oval cross-section.

20 27. The intervertebral implant according to claim 24, wherein the body portion has a substantially multi-sided cross-section.